

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

State Board of Charities and Reform

For the Fiscal Year Ending Nov. 30, 1910

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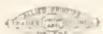
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Office of the State Board of Charities and Reform.
Helena, Montana, Nov. 30, 1910.

To His Excellency,
Hon. E. L. Norris,
Governor of Montana

Dear Sir:—

In compliance with the requirements of the law governing the "State Board of Charities and Reform," Article XXI of the Political Code, Section 748, we herewith present the report of the year ending Nov. 30, 1910.

Respectfully,
J. F. McNAMEE,

President.

D. B. PRICE, Secretary.

Members of the Board.

J. F. McNamee	Helena
W. W. Van Orsdel	Great Falls
D. B. Price, Sec.	Helena

Office of the Board,
State Capitol.

Standing Committees of the Board.

State Hospital for the Insane.....	D. B. Price
State Reform School	D. B. Price
Soldier's Home	W. W. Van Orsdel
Orphans' Home	W. W. Van Orsdel
Penitentiary	J. F. McNamee
School for Deaf and Blind and Feeble Minded	J. F. McNamee

Annual Report.

To His Excellency,

Hon. E. L. Norris, Governor.

We have the honor to submit herewith a report of the transactions of the State Board of Charities and Reform.

The Statute requires that the Board shall, every year, make a report of the actual condition of all state, county and city institutions, which by statute come under its supervision, with such suggestions as they may deem advisable.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. McNAMEE,

President.

D. B. PRICE, Secretary.

STATE INSTITUTIONS.

Charitable and Correctional.

The State Prison, at Deer Lodge; the State Reform School, at Miles City; the Home for Orphans, Foundlings, and Destitute Children, at Twin Bridges; the Soldiers' Home, at Columbia Falls; the State Hospital for the Insane, at Warm Springs; and the State school for the Deaf and Blind and Feeble Minded, at Boulder, are the State institutions subject to the supervision of this Board. It is also made the duty of this Board to investigate the condition of the poor houses, county prisons, city prisons and houses of correction, but the amount of money placed at the disposal of this Board is hardly sufficient to meet the expense, besides the Board is composed of busy men, who serve the State without compensation.

Silver Bow, Lewis and Clark, Missoula and Ravalli Counties have been visited this year.

The reports, severally, follow:

The Hospital for the Insane, Warm Springs.

The number in the Hospital December 1, 1909, 525 males, 166 females; total 691. Admitted during the fiscal year, 212 males, 69 females; total 281. The number discharged as recovered this year, males 49, females 10, total 59; discharged as improved, males 39, females 25, total 64. Twenty-nine patients escaped, six of whom were returned. Sixty-six patients, 53 males and 13 females, died during the year. The total number remaining in the Hospital Nov. 30, 1910, 754; 567 males and 187 females, showing an increase of 63, males 42, females 21. Percent of recoveries on number treated, 12.7. Percent of recoveries on number admitted, 43.8. Percent of deaths during fiscal year 6.8.

A classification of the patients according to the causes of insanity would be very interesting to the professional reader, but not to the lay, yet it is of consequence to the public to know that 198 cases are due to heredity alone, and 274 to heredity combined with some other cause, making a grand total of 472 cases whose primary cause is heredity. Silver Bow County has the largest number of patients in the Hospital, 120; Lewis and Clark, 77; Deer Lodge and Missoula 68 each; Cascade, 52; Yellowstone, 38; and Sanders is at the bottom of the list with one.

The table of nativity shows that 337 of the patients were born in the United States, 381 in Foreign countries, and 36 unknown. Twenty-five are the number of Foreign countries furnishing patients and Ireland leads with 84, Germany 50, Sweden 46, Canada 36, Norway 32, Austria 28, Finland 26, England 22, Scotland 12.

There are 217 inmates who have been in the institution from 10 to 33 years. The Montana State Hospital for the Insane was established in 1877, with thirteen patients, five of whom are living there still. It has grown from a few small buildings to a large, commodious well equipped plant sufficient in capacity to accommodate 1,000 patients.

The buildings, with the exception of three or four of the original, are modern in structure, practically fire proof, well ventilated and hygienic, heated by steam or hot water, and amply provided with hot and cold water for bathing purposes. They are comfortably furnished and properly arranged

for the convenience of the patients and their nurses, and for the most modern and scientific treatment of mental ailments whereby results have been obtained comparable to those of the very best institutions of the East.

The institution is a model of cleanliness. An abundance of wholesome food is served to the inmates three times daily, and the physicians, three in number, are assisted by a competent corps, forty-eight in number, of attendants and nurses. The total number of employees is 67. The cost per patient, per day to the State is 70 cents.

The meats, vegetables and milk, are produced on the farm and are of the finest quality. There are 5,000 acres of land connected with the institution. The dairy herd consists of 100 pedigreed Holstein cows, which are provided with a modern barn for their accommodation; also there is a piggery accommodating from 500 to 600 hogs. A large herd of beef cattle are kept on the pastures and ranges of the institution, and these and the hogs are butchered on the premises as the needs require.

During the past year large lawns have been constructed in front of the buildings, cement sidewalks built and streets graded at a cost of \$7,500.00, which add much to the beauty and convenience of the premises. Buildings, mainly additions to the heating plant, have been constructed at a cost of \$10,000.00 and \$3,000.00 has been expended on the farm.

Too much can not be said in praise of a young State like Montana when it provides as generously as it does for the unfortunate. No other wards of the State evoke as much pity and concern as do the insane. Though this institution is private property and the patients are cared for by contract, be it said to the credit of the contractors that it is done with liberality and fidelity to the State, and that the physicians in charge are competent alienists, and do their work humanely and skillfully. The superintendent, Dr. J. M. Scanland, invites inspection at all times, and welcomes visitors without number and notification.

Since this Institution is so well located, substantially constructed, amply equipped, fortunately endowed with warm springs of superior medicinal properties, insuring everlasting immunity against the perils of impure water and the saving of a large annual item of expense in coal for heating water,

and surrounded by a valley of unsurpassed healthfulness, beauty and utility, skirted by mountains on either side whose stateliness and grandeur act as a perpetual uplift to its inhabitants, it is the opinion of this Board that the time has come when the State should take the initial step toward acquiring this property. The day is not far distant when another institution will be needed, which should be located in the eastern part of the State, and before that day comes the State should be the owner of this property.

State Penitentiary, Deer Lodge.

This institution is no longer run under the contract system but by the State, and through its Prison Commission prescribes the rules, the bill of fare, and directs the whole administration of the Prison. Mr. Frank Conley is Warden. Your board has visited the prison a number of times this year and communicated with many of its inmates and received no word of complaint against the management. The State is to be congratulated upon the employment of a man of the experience, discretion and kindness of Mr. Conley to care for its prisoners.

The number of prisoners admitted from Nov. 30, 1908 to Nov. 30, 1909, 380; and from Nov. 30, 1909 to Nov. 30, 1910, 294. Total number of prisoners Nov. 30, 1910, 609, four of whom were women, and 29 of whom were illiterates. Discharged the first year of this period, 277, the second, 354; and paroled first year, 39; second, 24; and died first year 3, second 4. One of the deaths the first year was an execution for killing one of the guards. Of the total number of prisoners in the custody of the State at the close of the fiscal year, 540 were American born, and 169, foreign. Classified according to sentence there were 37 committed for life, 7 for 99 years, 11 for 50 to 81 years, 7 for 40 to 50 years, 11 for 30 to 40 years, 31 for 20 to 30 years, 94 for 10 to 20 years, 114 for 5 to 10 years, and 297 for 1 to 5 years; and, according to age; under 20 years, 32; between 20 and 24, 145; between 25 and 29, 154; between 30 and 39, 175; between 40 and 49, 68; between 50 and 59, 23; and between 60 and 69, 12. Segregated, in part, according to crimes committed the following facts appear: Grand larceny, 145; burglary, 105; murder, 85; assault, 67; robbery, 59; forgery, 56; manslaughter, 34; and rape, 31.

In 1907 a hospital was erected which contains as finely arranged and equipped operating room as there is in the State. The hospital is provided with eleven beds which have been ample to meet all demands, they being far below the average in other similar institutions. The average number of patients confined to the hospital is seven, and the State employs a competent physician and surgeon who visits it daily, and all the cell buildings. A dentist regularly visits the prison whose services the prisoner may engage, if he has the money.

The prisoners are furnished three meals per day. Breakfast, 7:00 a. m.; dinner, 12:00 m.; supper, 6:00 p. m., except in winter, when supper shall be served just preceding darkness.

Bill of Fare.

MONDAY.

Breakfast—Mush and milk, bread, coffee and sugar.

Dinner—Baked beans with pork and bacon, bread, potatoes.

Supper—Corned beef, bread, tea with sugar.

TUESDAY.

Breakfast—Beef hash, corn-bread, coffee with sugar.

Dinner—Beef stew, potatoes, bread, boiled cabbage.

Supper—Oatmeal and milk, bread, tea with sugar.

WEDNESDAY.

Breakfast—Rice and milk, bread, coffee with sugar.

Dinner—Roast beef, bread, potatoes and carrots.

Supper—Beef hash, bread, tea with sugar.

THURSDAY.

Breakfast—Oatmeal and milk, bread, coffee and sugar.

Dinner—Baked beans, brown bread, potatoes, beets.

Supper—Corned beef, bread, tea with sugar.

FRIDAY.

Breakfast—Corned beef hash, corn bread, coffee with sugar.

Dinner—Boiled cod-fish, potatoes, bread, turnips.

Supper—Beef stew, bread, tea with sugar.

SATURDAY.

Breakfast—Rice and milk, bread, coffee with sugar.

Dinner—Mutton stew, bread, potatoes, cabbage.

Supper—Corned beef, bread, tea with sugar.

SUNDAY.

Breakfast—Rice and milk, bread, coffee with sugar.

Dinner—Fresh roast pork, baked potatoes, bread, beets and turnips.

Supper—Oatmeal and milk, bread, tea with sugar.

The employees of the Prison are: Warden, Deputy Warden, Matron, Doctor, Bandmaster, 37 guards, and clerk, total, 43.

The cost per capita per day for each inmate is forty-seven cents.

The Prison Commissioners the past year, very properly we think, instructed the Warden to work some of the prisoners upon the public highway, and as a result five miles were constructed from Deer Lodge towards Helena, eleven miles from Deer Lodge to Garrison, and two miles of rock were cut at Nimrod in Granite County. The labor was voluntary and the demand for the privilege of working was greater than the demand for work, and the improvement in discipline and health was very noticeable.

The sanitary condition of the prison is almost perfect, and we learned with pleasure that "stripes" are to be abolished and used only as a means of discipline in the future.

State Reform School, Miles City.

We write Reform School with a protest. This Board has advocated for years that the name be changed to State Industrial School, and now that the manual training equipment authorized by the last legislature has been installed and a course of manual training provided for those committed to the school, we believe the time has come to change the name.

At the time of our last visit to the school there were fifty three pupils, forty-five boys and eight girls. During the year twenty-one boys have been received and eighteen paroled. There are sixteen officers employed in the institution, three of whom are teachers, and the school continues throughout the year.

The youth of our State are eligible to commitment to the school between the ages of eight and eighteen, and they are committed till they are twenty-one, but by the merit system they may earn a parole within twelve months. The pupils under the direction of officers care for the buildings and grounds, and cultivate the farm. Each Sunday afternoon a

Sunday School session is held for them, and frequently the local clergy visit the Sunday School and deliver a sermon or an address. All the wearing apparel is made in the school and carpentry and blacksmithing are taught. The President and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. George, are faithful to their charge and render the State efficient service.

This year a new bake shop has been installed and many general improvements made, all at a cost of \$2,843.54. A new Kewanee Water System has been installed at a cost of \$2,000.00. This provides ample water supply and fire protection, two things the institution very much needed.

The public is inclined to regard the youth committed to this school with some indifference, and while they come principally from the incorrigible and criminally inclined class, they are our wards and are capable of making fair citizens, under proper discipline and instruction. Every effort is made to make their surroundings homelike and to inspire them with proper ideals of manhood and womanhood.

The following products were raised on the farm this year: Sugar beets, 83,670 lbs.; potatoes, 38,389 lbs.; pumpkins, 2,150 lbs.; squash, 6,460 lbs.; rutabagas, 26,725 lbs.; turnips, 12,890 lbs.; muskmelons, 1,217; watermelons, 825; cabbage, 500 heads; carrots, 4,160 lbs.; tomatoes, 1,650 lbs.; sweet corn, 68 bushels, string beans, 240 quarts; cucumbers, 1,150 lbs.; table beets, 2,800 lbs.; onions, 6,975 lbs.; lettuce, 224 bunches; radishes 305 bunches; green peas, 224 quarts; plums, four bushels; corn fodder, 25 tons; hay, 78 tons; pork, butchered and consumed, 1,237 lbs.; calves, 709 lbs.; millet, 8 tons; rhubarb, 263 bunches; asparagus, 28 bunches; green onions, 237 bunches; currants, 94 quarts; gooseberries, 90 quarts; citrons, 72.

It is much easier for the public to hear evil reports concerning the management of public institutions than it is good; therefore we close our reference to this school with the bill of fare for three widely separated days, through the year:

Menu for the Montana State Reform School.

Monday. March 7th, 1910.

Breakfast—Rolled oats, milk, sugar, pancakes, coffee, bread, butter, syrup.

Dinner—Roast pork, brown gravy, potatoes, turnips, bread, butter, pudding, pickles.

Supper—Beans, apricot sauce, cookies, tea, sugar, milk, bread, butter.

Friday, July 22nd, 1910.

Breakfast—Creamed-potatoes, coffee, toast, milk, sugar, bread, butter, syrup.

Dinner—Mashed potatoes, fish, onions, bread, butter, lettuce, bread-pudding.

Supper—Macaroni and tomatoes, tomato pickles, bread, butter, tea, sugar, milk, cinnamon rolls, rhubarb sauce.

Thursday, Nov. 24th, 1910.

Breakfast—Oat meal, creamed-potatoes, coffee, bread, butter, sugar milk, syrup.

Dinner—Mashed potatoes, turkey and dressing, gravy, stewed squash, cucumber pickles, cranberry sauce, bread, butter, mince and pumpkin pie, coffee.

Supper—Hash, tea, sugar, milk, bread, butter, cookies, tomato preserves.

State Orphans' Home, Twin Bridges.

Your board made one visit to this home during the year. There were 140 children in the Home at the close of the year. Ninety-six were admitted during the year and the same number were placed in homes and returned to relatives. There were only two deaths, babes, during the year. The commitment papers show that the nationality of the parents of the children is; American 64, foreign 56, unknown 20.

There is a total of 26 employees, three of whom are teachers, one male and two females. A competent physician visits the institution every morning. The present property consists of 108 acres of land, main building, four cottages, nursery, heating plant, water tank, school building and assembly hall, and barns. The need for enlargement is urgent and in the future great care should be used in determining the location and character of the improvements to be made.

The children with the aid of the officers care for the buildings, grounds and farm, and make their clothes. The president and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Mountjoy, have been with the Home for more than ten years. They are kind and devoted to the children. Their aim is to conduct the institution as a home, but that is impossible with the present equipment. The next legislative assembly should send a committee

to visit the Home, and that committee should not hesitate to recommend that every improvement, that the proper care of the orphan children of the State demand, be made. The public will heartily endorse such a recommendation.

Soldiers' Home, Columbia Falls.

The Soldiers' Home located at Columbia Falls, Montana, is situated with most beautiful surroundings. On the East by the Kootenai range, a spur of the main range of the Rocky Mountains; on the West stretches the beautiful and fertile Flathead Valley for a distance of twenty-five miles; on the North is the Flathead Range, and on the South is the fertile farms till you come to the Great Flathead Lake about twenty-five miles distant. The institution is built on the bank of the magnificent Flathead River. This is an ideal place for these Veterans to have their well earned rest home. This home is not a charitable institution, for these veterans who live here have by their deeds of valor done for the state and for the Nation what the State and the Nation is now doing for them.

At present 89 of these veterans are enjoying the comforts of this home, few of whom are less than three score and ten. Twenty-nine of the inmates are in the hospital. The hospital is a well and modern equipped institution, and those who find it necessary to spend their time there are well cared for. Among the buildings is one set aside for the soldiers' families, and at the present time is occupied by four soldiers and their wives. The buildings are all commodious, electric lighted, and steam heated, heated from a central heating plant. For the year commencing October 1909, there were six deaths in the home.

The present occupants of the Home came from twenty different states in the Union and are veterans of the Civil and Spanish-American Wars. The farm conducted with the home consists of 160 acres, 50 acres of which were used for raising cereals, 2 acres for garden and two and a half acres for potatoes, all of which gave a good yield; there is also a small orchard which has yielded well in apples and small fruits.

The Chaplain, the Rev. C. E. Smith, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Columbia Falls holds services at the Home every alternate Sunday afternoon and looks after the spiritual welfare of the Veterans of the Home.

Dr. J. T. Robinson is the able physician and surgeon who cares for the physical condition of those in the Home.

Captain H. S. Howell, Commandant, has proven himself to be the right man in the right place in managing the important interests of the Home and is to be commended for his success.

The Board of Managers are: Major Martin Maginnis, Pres., Helena; F. P. Sterling, Sec., Helena; Dr. W. H. Campbell, Kalispell; and A. Ingraham, Kalispell.

Lewis and Clark County Hospital.

This place is one and a half miles from Helena on a farm of 80 acres. It is the best institution of the kind in the State and is well furnished. There are 90 inmates in this Hospital, 89 men and 7 women. Three have died during the year. There are eight employees besides the Superintendent, W. M. Holbrook. Less than fifty per cent of our people have as good homes as this county provides for its dependent poor. It is a real home, sanitary and comfortable. The inmates are treated with kindness and consideration, and a competent physician is employed by the county.

Silver Bow County Hospital.

This institution is situated in the valley southeast of Butte, two and one half miles. E. J. Laurandeau is the superintendent and has been for three years. At the time of our visit there were 98 inmates, forty-one of whom were bed-ridden and sick. The visitor is impressed with the number of young people in this hospital.

The county furnishes building, bedding and cooking utensils, physician, medicines and appliances, and the superintendent furnishes food, clothing and attendants, and receives 50 cents per day for each inmate. There are five people on the payroll in connection with the institution. The main building is in much need of some repairs. The inmates are fed three times daily, and the place is kept moderately clean.

Missoula County Poor Farm.

Mrs. C. G. Maher is in charge of this county's farm and Hospital, and the contract price is \$3.40 per week per inmate. The county furnishes furniture, repairs, medical attendance and appliances. The physician visits the hospital twice a week and answers all special calls.

There were twenty-one inmates at the time of our visit. Three meals are served in family style daily and the inmates claimed that they were well treated.

The farm is three miles from the city of Missoula, consists of 80 acres of land, 25 acres in cultivation and the remainder is used as pasture. The building is old, somewhat inadequate and in need of repair. Some of the beds and bedding are old and should be replaced with new. The only religious service held is that by the Kings' Daughters, and only occasionally. What little reading matter the inmates have is furnished by thoughtful friends in the city. The washing and ironing is done by the inmates. The inmates are allowed to go to town on permission of matron or commissioners.

Ravalli County Poor Farm.

This farm consists of 120 acres, 10 of which are in cultivation, and 65 used as pasture. The contract price for the care of patients is \$7.50 per patient per week. The county furnishes wood, medicine and physician. Most of the furniture belongs to the County. The condition of the building is not good and the plumbing is unsanitary and inadequate. At the time of our visit there were three inmates, eight being the highest number under the present superintendent's management.

Lewis and Clark County Jail.

This is the best jail in the State, and is kept sanitary. The prisoners are fed twice each day, 9:00 a. m., and 3:00 p. m., and the cost to the county is 50 cents per day. There were 350 commitments to jail in 1910.

Silver Bow County Jail.

The old jail is very inadequate and unsanitary, but a new jail is under construction which will be modern in all of its appointments. The number of prisoners at the time of our visit was 45.

Missoula County Jail.

The jail is small, provided with a double deck cell cage which will accommodate 32. At the time of our visit there were eighteen prisoners. There is no regular jailer, the work being done by a deputy sheriff. The bill of fare is ample, with extras on Holidays. The sanitary condition is only moderately good.

The Ravalli County Jail.

This jail is small, not secure because of its very weak walls. The women's department is small, unventilated and should be improved. The sanitary condition is good.

Helena City Jail.

This jail is managed with considerable efficiency; has good cement floors, is clean, and will accomodate thirty people. The city contracts with some nearby restaurant to feed the prisoners and they are given three meals a day. Arrests and detentions per month average 157.

Butte City Jail.

This jail is a dark, unventilated basement under the city hall, wholly undesirable and is a discredit to the city of Butte. A city the size of Butte is amply able to provide desirable quarters for the detention of its prisoners and suspects and should do it without delay. This city should have an emergency hospital and a detention room for boys. The jail should be provided with a matron. The average arrests and detentions are about 250, and occasionally there are as many as 75 locked up in the jail at one time.

Missoula City Jail.

The old jail is not habitable and the city's prisoners are kept in the county pail. The city is building a new jail which did not impress your board as being very desirable, convenient or comfortable. Basement jails, entered by deep narrow stairways are not the best, nor are they safe, and should not be built in this day of architectural skill.

In conclusion your board would make the following recommendations:

1. That the next Legislative Assembly be requested to pass a law providing for a suspended sentence in case of first offences, always in the discretion of the court. A term in jail or the penitentiary usually so discourages a man that he seldom has the courage to try to regain his former place in public esteem; besides there are often mitigating circumstances connected with first offenses.

2. That the legislature be asked to provide an institution for inebriates and victims of the drug habit. They sometimes get into the hospital for the insane where they do not belong, and then they are pursued and prosecuted by local authorities

at great expense to the public and to no profit to the victims, whereas they might be cared for and treated in an institution at much less expense, besides effecting many cures.

3. That in the future no additions be made to our State Institutions except by and with the consent of the State Board of Examiners. Some of our institutions are poorly located and the buildings not adapted to their uses, which conditions we find grew, in the main, out of local ambitions and jealousies.

4. That at the present session of the legislature a law be passed empowering the State Board of Prison Commissioners to construct a public highway through the State with prison labor, and authorizing the said Commission to proceed to the installation of machinery in the prison to manufacture articles much in demand in our state, and to take such other steps as may be necessary to insure work for all the prisoners and which will eventually make the institution self-supporting.

It is a growing conviction among our citizens that no commonwealth has a right to force its criminals into idleness, but the rather to make the sentence "to hard work" actual.

